LISTING OF CLAIMS

The following is a copy of the claims as previously submitted.

1. (Previously presented) A semiconductor process for controlling etching profile, comprising the steps of:

providing a plurality of substrates, wherein each substrate comprises a film to be etched and an overlying masking pattern layer thereon; and

etching the film to be etched on each substrate in a plasma chamber using the masking pattern layer as an etch mask, a polymer layer being deposited over the inner wall of the plasma chamber during the etching;

wherein an intermediary cleaning process is performed in the plasma chamber between the etchings before the deposited polymer layer reaches such a degree as to induce lateral etching on the film to be etched of the next substrate.

2. (original) The semiconductor process of claim 1, wherein the film to be etched is a silicon layer.

3. (original) The semiconductor process of claim 2, wherein the intermediary cleaning process is performed before the deposited polymer layer leads to a spectral intensity associated with the layer to be etched from OES data analysis more than 100 at a wavelength about 405 nm.

4. (original) The semiconductor process of claim 1, wherein the mask layer is a silicon oxide layer.

5. (original) The semiconductor process of claim 1, wherein the intermediary cleaning process is performed between each of the etchings.

6. (original) The semiconductor process of claim 1, wherein the intermediary cleaning process is performed for 1~3 minutes.

7. (original) The semiconductor process of claim 6, wherein the intermediary cleaning further comprises the steps of:
using O_2, Cl_2, and SF_6 as a first cleaning gas for about 30 sec; and
using Cl_2, and HBr as a second cleaning gas for about 50 sec.

8. (original) The semiconductor process of claim 1, further comprising performing a preliminary cleaning process in the plasma chamber before placing the substrates therein.

9. (original) The semiconductor process of claim 8, wherein the preliminary cleaning process is performed for 8~12 minutes.

10. (original) The semiconductor process of claim 9, wherein the preliminary cleaning process further comprises the steps of:

using O_2, Cl_2, and SF_6 as a first cleaning gas for about 70 sec;

using O_2, Cl_2, and He as a second cleaning gas for about 200 sec;

using Cl_2, and HBr as a third cleaning gas for about 150 sec; and

using He as a fourth cleaning gas for about 30 sec.

11. (Previously presented) A method of forming floating gates for flash memory devices, comprising the steps of:

providing a plurality of substrates;

successively forming a floating gate dielectric layer and a polysilicon layer overlying each of the substrates;

forming a capping layer with a bird's beak overlying the polysilicon layer; and

etching each of the polysilicon layers in sequence in a plasma chamber using the overlying capping layer as an etch mask to form a floating gate on each of the floating gate dielectric layers, a polymer layer being deposited over the inner wall of the plasma chamber during the etching;

wherein an intermediary cleaning process is performed in the plasma chamber between the etchings before the deposited polymer layer reaches such a degree as to induce lateral etching on the next polysilicon layer.

12. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the intermediary cleaning process is performed between each of the etchings.

13. (original) The method of claim 11, the intermediary cleaning process is performed for 1~3 minutes.

14. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the intermediary cleaning process further comprises the steps of:
using O_2, Cl_2, and SF_6 as a first cleaning gas to perform the for about 30 sec; and
using Cl_2, and HBr as a second cleaning gas to perform the for about 50 sec.

15. (original) The method of claim 11, further comprising performing a preliminary cleaning process in the plasma chamber before placing the substrates therein.

16. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein the preliminary cleaning process is performed for 8~12 minutes.

17. (original) The method of claim 16, wherein the preliminary cleaning process further comprises the steps of:
using O_2, Cl_2, and SF_6 as a first cleaning gas for about 70 sec;
using O_2, Cl_2, and He as a second cleaning gas for about 200 sec;
using Cl_2, and HBr as a third cleaning gas for about 150 sec; and
using He as a fourth cleaning gas for about 30 sec.

18. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the intermediary cleaning process is performed before the deposited polymer layer leads to a spectral intensity associated with the polysilicon layer from OES data analysis more than 100 at a wavelength about 405 nm.

19. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the floating gate dielectric layer is a silicon oxide layer.

20. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the capping layer is silicon oxide layer.

21. (original) A method of forming floating gates for flash memory devices, comprising the steps of:

providing a plurality of substrates;

successively forming a floating gate oxide layer and a polysilicon layer overlying each of the substrates;

forming a oxide layer with a bird's beak overlying the polysilicon layer; and

etching each of the polysilicon layers in sequence in a cleaned plasma chamber using the overlying oxide layer as an etch mask to form a floating gate on each of the floating gate oxide layers, a polymer layer being deposited over the inner wall of the plasma chamber during the etching;

wherein a cleaning process is performed in the plasma chamber between each of the etchings to remove the deposited polymer layer.

22. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein the cleaning process is performed for 1~3 minutes.

23. (original) The method of claim 22, wherein the cleaning process further comprises the steps of:

using O_2, Cl_2, and SF_6 as a first cleaning gas for about 30 sec; and

using Cl_2, and HBr as a second cleaning gas for about 50 sec.